

THE SPIRIT OF DEMOCRACY.

A Family Newspaper--Devoted to Politics, Foreign and Domestic News, Literature, the Arts and Sciences, Education, Agriculture, Markets, Amusement, &c.

MORRIS & WILLIAMS, Publishers and Proprietors.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING.

TERMS:—\$1.50 per Annum, in Advance.

VOLUME XV.

WOODSFIELD, MONROE COUNTY, OHIO, MARCH 17, 1858.

NUMBER 1.

Columbus Correspondence.

Sub-treasury bills--Adjourned session--County seat questions--Medical bill--Dr. Stout on M. D.--Judicial district bill--Temperance bill, &c., &c.

COLUMBUS, March 5, 1858.

DEAR SPIRIT: Both branches of the Legislature are hard at work on the important bills of the session. There are now four sub-treasury bills before us--two from the Senate by Mr. Hatch, and two from the House--one by Mr. Brooke and one by Mr. Morse. There is no very important difference between Hatch's last bill and Morse's. Mr. Brooke's attracted little attention. The Senate has stricken out the section of Hatch's bill providing for the semi-annual collection of taxes, and also that section providing for the payment of taxes in specie after a certain specified time. The bill could not have passed either House while containing these provisions.

A few days since a resolution was introduced resolving that it was inexpedient to hold an adjourned session. It gave rise to much discussion, and a number of amendments and substitutes were offered, that it is in violation of the spirit of the constitution to hold an adjourned session. A Democrat moved to amend by adding that "the adjourned session of last year was in violation of the spirit of the constitution." This as a matter of course "knocked the wind out" of the Republican, and caused him to be well laughed at. The whole subject was finally referred to a select committee, without a test vote having been taken; but from the indications I think it very doubtful whether an adjourned session will be called. For my own part I am irretrievably hostile to it.

Much to my surprise the committee on new counties reported a bill authorizing a vote of the people of Belmont county on the removal of their county seat to Belvoir. There has been a strong outside pressure here for the vote since the opening of the session. The opponents of the removal supposing there was no danger, have used little exertion. It would be safer for them to pay some attention to the matter.

Dr. Stout has presented a bill, prepared I believe by the faculty of the medical college here, prohibiting all persons under severe penalties from practicing medicine without having first received a diploma from some medical college or from some organized medical society. The penalty is a fine of not more than three hundred nor less than fifty dollars.

Dr. Stout has received a diploma from the medical college here, and is now an M. D. Honors seem to be accumulating fast upon him. It is but a week or two since he was admitted as an attorney at law.

The joint committee appointed to inquire into the best mode of remedying the defects in our judicial system have reported by bill. Their bill provides for two additional common pleas judges in the second district, one in the third, one in the fourth, one in the fifth, one in the sixth, one in the seventh, one for the eighth, one for the ninth, and creating a new district. The one to be elected in the eighth district is for the second sub-division composed of the counties of Monroe, Belmont and Guernsey. It is impossible to tell yet what will be the fate of the bill.

The bill abolishing the office of county infirmity director was indefinitely postponed on Wednesday. There was a sharp contest, but a small majority was opposed to it.

I'll venture to say that if the question had been left to the infirmity directors of the State it would not have been lost. A bill has been introduced in the Senate similar in its provisions to the Maine law. It cannot pass either branch. No further progress has been made with the other bills on this subject. I learn that the committee on temperance are preparing an elaborate report in favor of restoring the old license system.

The committee on federal relations made a report a few days since criticizing the Governor's message. Mr. Van Vorhes to rid the bill of the message that the Governor be requested to amend those portions of the message criticized. To his amazement and mortification the Democrats voted for his motion and it carried. Dr. Van of Guernsey, has introduced a bill authorizing a vote on the removal of the county seat of Noble county. It has had its second reading.

The House had rather a rich time a few days since. In committee of the whole Mr. Davis presided. He is possessed by the idea that he is the leader of the Republicans of the House, and makes a great many dull speeches. In consequence of this when he is in a tight place he gets little sympathy. All manner of out-of-order motions were made to annoy him, and his ruling on questions of order were irresistibly laughed. The House got some recompense for listening to his prozy speeches.

The students of the blind Asylum had an exhibition in the hall of the house on Wednesday night. It was a very creditable affair.

Yours, &c., JERE WILLIAMS.

A Theatrical Incident.

Some years ago the manager of a "well regulated theatre," somewhere along the Erie Canal, engaged a good looking and brisk young lady as supernumerary. It happened that the young lady in question had formerly officiated in some capacity as a "hand" on board a canal boat, a fact which she was extremely anxious to conceal. She evinced much anxiety to master the details of her newly chosen profession, and soon exhibited a more than ordinary degree of comic talent. She was duly promoted, and in time became the general favorite with both manager and public. One night she was announced to appear in a favorite part; a couple of boatmen found their way into the pit, near the foot lights, particularly anxious to see the new famous comedienne. The house was crowded; and after the usual degree of general applause which greeted her appearance, one of the boatmen slapped his companion on the shoulder and, with an emphatic expletive, exclaimed, loud enough to be heard over half the house:--

"Bill, I know that gal!"
"Pshaw!" said Bill, "dry up."
"But I'm d--d if I don't now, Bill. It's Sal Finkins, as sure as you're born. She's old Finkins' daughter, that used to run the *Injured Polly* and she used to sail with him."

"Tom," said Bill, "you're a fool, and if you don't stop your infernal clack, you'll get put out. Sal Finkins! You know a sight if you think that's her!"

Tom was silent but not convinced. He watched the actress in all her motions with intense interest, and ere long broke out again:--

"I tell ye, Bill that's her--I know 'tis. You can't fool me--I know her too well!"
Bill, who was a good deal interested in the play, was all out of patience at this persistent interruption on the part of Tom. He gave him a tremendous nudge in the ribs with his elbow, as an emphatic hint for him to keep quiet.

Tom, without minding the admonition, said: "You just wait--I'll fix her--keep your eye on me."

Sure enough, he did fix her. Watching his opportunity when the actress was deeply absorbed in her part, he sang out in a voice which rang through the galleries:--

"Low bridge!"

From force of habit the actress instantly and involuntarily ducked her head to avoid the anticipated collision. Down came the house in a perfect thunder of applause at this "palpable hit," high above which Tom's voice could be heard, as he returned Bill's punch in the ribs with interest:--

"Didn't I tell ye, old boy I know'd 'twas her. You couldn't fool me."

Doggerel.

The following is afloat without paternity, and we regret that its origin is unknown to us, that we may bestow credit where it belongs:

Marshal, spare that dog, touch not a single hair; he worries many a hog, from out his muddy lair. Oh! when he was a pup, so frisky and so plump, he lapped his milk from a cup, when hungry--at a jump. And then his funny tricks, so funny in their place, so full of canine licks upon your hands and face. You will surely let him live! Oh, do not kill him dead, he wags his narrative; and prays for life--not lead. Oh, get the muzzle low and put upon his mouth, and stop that howl and wowl and tendency to drought. He is our children's pet, companion of their joy, you will not kill him yet, and thus their hopes destroy. No, Marshal, spare that pup, touch not a single hair. Oh! put your "pistol" up, and go away from there.

A LETTER FROM A FATHER TO HIS SON AT COLLEGE. My Dear Son: I write to send you a pair of my old breeches, from which you can have a new coat made. Also, some new socks, which your mother has just knit from my old ones, which she cut down. Your mother and I am well, except that your sister has the measles, which will be likely to spread among the other girls, if Tom, who is the only one left, had not already had them. I hope you will do honor to my teachings; if not, you are an ass, and your mother and myself your affectionate parents.

Senator Douglas' Minority Report on Lecompton.

The following report of Senator Douglas is abbreviated from the original as presented in the Senate, but contains the important points made by Mr. Douglas, and in his own language:

I am constrained to withhold my assent from the conclusion to which the majority of the Committee have arrived, for the reason that there is no satisfactory evidence that the Constitution formed at Lecompton is the act and deed of the people of Kansas, or that it embodies their will. In absence of all affirmative evidence, and in opposition to the overwhelming majority of the election of January 4th, 1858, it is argued that the Convention was constituted with full authority to ordain a Constitution and establish a government; consequently its proceedings must be presumed to embody the popular will, notwithstanding its being overthrown by most conclusive evidence to the contrary. As the right of Congress to accept the Constitution depends upon the assumption that its proceedings were technically regular, it is necessary to inquire whether it was duly constituted and clothed with full power for ordaining a Constitution and establishing a State Government to the preceding Acts of Congress.

Did the Territorial act of Feb. 19, 1857, have the effect of authorizing the Convention to substitute a State government, for the Territorial?

The Committee in their reports have held that the sovereign power of a Territory is held in obedience by the National Government in trust for the people until they shall become a State, and that this power cannot be transferred to the Territory without consent of Congress. The Kansas-Nebraska act invested the people of the Territory with the right of self-government in obedience to the organic act, but did not authorize them to annul that act without consent of Congress.

The President seems to think that the Kansas-Nebraska act authorizes the people of the Territories or any portion of them to form a Constitution at any time without authority from Congress, suspending the authority of the Territorial Legislature, at least to the extent of depriving it of the power to submit a Constitution to the people before it should be deemed the act of the people. Neither the provisions of the act, nor the understanding of its authors support this position.

President Pierce held no such theory. In 1856 he sent in a special message to Congress, recommending an Enabling Act as a remedy for existing evils in the Territory.

The Committee on Territories, to whom this message was referred, were of the opinion that the recommendation of the President furnished the appropriate mode of satisfactorily adjusting the questions at issue, and so reported, thus indicating that they, as well as the Chief Magistrate, did not recognize the right of the people of a Territory containing but few inhabitants to form at pleasure a Constitution and State Government. The House of Representatives, however, refused to comply with the President's recommendation.

That the Senate were of the same opinion is evident from the passage of the Enabling Act for the people of Kansas, July 2d, 1856. No Senator who voted against the Kansas-Nebraska act voted against the Enabling Act, and none opposed it, on the ground that the Organic Act was sufficient to authorize the people of a Territory to ordain a Constitution at pleasure.

The Kansas Legislature, by the act of February 19, 1857, did not and could not confer upon the Lecompton Convention the sovereign power of ordaining a Constitution, in place of the organic law passed by Congress. The Convention, conscious of want of power, seek to supply the deficiency by referring the Constitution to the people at an election on the 21st of December, "for ratification or rejection," with a provision that "this Constitution shall take effect and be in force from and after its ratification by the people." From this it is clear, that the Convention did not openly assert the authority to ordain the Constitution by virtue of inherent sovereign power, but referred its ratification to the people, under the supposition that the popular will expressed through the ballot-box might impart validity to it. Before the time of election, the Territorial Legislature interposed its authority by passing a law, providing for holding the election on the 4th of January. The reasons for this were:--

1. That the mode of submission prescribed by the Convention was unfair, rendering it impossible for the people to reject it.
2. That the mode of submission did not fully present the question of slavery or no slavery.
3. That the convention possessing no legislative power, it could not provide penalties for illegal voting.
4. That by the schedule of the Constitution the management of the election was taken out of the Territorial officers.

The election of the 4th of January resulted in the repudiation of the Lecompton Constitution by a clear majority of 10,064 votes. Notwithstanding the legislative act, fixing on the 4th of January as the day of election, the friends of the

Lecompton Constitution held an election on the 21st of December, under the pretended authority of the Convention, which resulted in a majority of 5,514 votes, cast for that Constitution, "with slavery." More than half this majority was cast at very sparsely settled precincts of the Territory, and without doubt was fraudulent. Assuming, however, this election to have been fair and valid, though not conducted according to law, on comparing the returns of the two elections, indicate a majority against the Lecompton Constitution of 4,490, casting out the votes declared fraudulent by the presiding officers of the two Houses of the Legislature, we have a majority of 8,000, or four to one of all the legal voters of Kansas in opposition to the Constitution. The President asserts in his recent special message that the election of the 4th of January was held after the Territory had been proposed for admission as a sovereign State, involving the strange inconsistency of voting against the Lecompton Constitution, while recognizing its valid existence by voting under its provisions. By what authority had the Territory been thus prepared for admission into the Union?

Not by authority of Congress. Not by authority of the Territorial Legislature. It is a peculiar doctrine that a Territorial Legislature may assemble a Convention without the assent of Congress, and empower the Convention to abrogate the authority of the Territorial Government established by Congress. Such a question does not now arise for the first time. Under the administration of Jackson, on the right of the Territorial Legislature of Arkansas, to prepare that Territory for admission into the Union as a sovereign State without an express authority from Congress. Gen. Jackson delivered the decision of his administration through Mr. Butler, his Attorney General, that a convention assembled under a Territorial Legislature, without an express authority from Congress, had no right or power to prepare the Territory for admission into the Union as a sovereign State, and thereby abrogate or impair the authority of the Territorial Legislature. It follows that the Lecompton Constitution should have been presented to Congress for acceptance, like any other memorial or petition. If these principles be correct the Convention at Lecompton had a right to assemble in an orderly manner and pray Congress to abrogate the Territorial Government, and admit them into the Union, but had no power to establish a Government or to do any other act under the pretence of preparing the Territory for admission. The President is mistaken in supposing that the Lecompton Constitution did or could do any act depriving the Territorial Legislature of the power and right to pass a law referring the Constitution to a vote of the people, on the 4th of January. The Convention was the creature of the Territorial Legislature, and as much in its power on the 7th of December when the law providing for the election on the 4th of January was enacted, as on the 19th of February, when the Legislature called the Convention into existence. Therefore, whenever the Legislature ascertained that the Convention had devised a scheme to force a Constitution upon the people without their consent, and without authority from Congress, it became its imperative duty to interpose, and it deserves credit for the promptness with which it acted. Not only were the people authorized by the Act of December 17 to vote for or against the Constitution, but by unanimous vote of both houses, a preamble and resolutions denouncing the Constitution were passed and forwarded to Congress.

In the face of all the evidences that the Lecompton Constitution is not the act of the people of Kansas, we are told by the President of the United States, that "To the people of Kansas the only practical difference between admission or rejection depends simply on the fact whether they can themselves more speedily change the present Constitution if it does not accord with the will of the majority, or frame a second Constitution to be submitted to Congress, thereafter."

There is a practical difference far more important than the mere question of time and there are principles involved infinitely more important than the practical difference. There is a serious difference, whether the people of Kansas shall be permitted to make and adopt the constitution under which they shall live, or whether Congress will force them into the Union against their will, and with a Constitution which they have repudiated by an overwhelming majority.

If it be true, as the President alleges that a large portion of the inhabitants of Kansas have been in a state of rebellion against the United States Government ever since his inauguration, and that up to this moment they still adhere to their treasonable pertinacity, is there ground for hope that the speedy admission of Kansas into the Union under the Lecompton Constitution would restore peace and quiet to the whole country? It is to be lamented that the President seems to misunderstand the nature and character of the Kansas controversy. From March 1855, when the first annual election for members of the Legislature, and the officers was held, until the general election in October, 1857, the Free State party so called, did boldly and persistently re-

fuse to recognize the Territorial Legislature as a legally constituted legislative body, for the reason, as they alleged, that its members were not elected by the people of Kansas, but by invaders from Missouri.

It is not my present purpose to inquire how far these allegations are sustained by the facts; I refer to them with the view of showing upon what grounds the Free State party claimed that they were justified in withholding their allegiance to the Territorial Government, until a fair opportunity was afforded the people to elect their own Legislature. Since the October election, however, all the opponents to the Lecompton Constitution have recognized the Territorial Government as valid. The October election thus becomes a memorable period in the history of Kansas. Up to this time it had been generally understood that the Convention had been called for the purpose of forming a constitution, and submitting it to the people for ratification or rejection, and of sending it to Congress for acceptance only in the event that it should be ratified by a majority of all the legal voters of the Territory.

The President himself instructed Governor Walker under date of March 30. "When such Constitution should be submitted to the people of the Territory, they must be protected in the exercise of their right of voting for or against this instrument and the fair expression of the popular will must not be interrupted by fraud or violence." Governor Walker, in his official dispatch to the Secretary of State, under date of June 2, said:--

"On one point the sentiments of the people are almost unanimous, that the Constitution must be submitted for ratification or rejection, to a vote of the people who shall be bona fide residents of the Territory next fall."

And in his Inaugural Address to the people of Kansas, Governor Walker said:--

"With these views, well known to the President and Cabinet and approved by them, I accepted the appointment of Governor of Kansas. My instructions from the President, through the Secretary of State, under date of the 29th March last, sustain the regular Legislature of the Territory in assembling a convention to form a Constitution. And they express the opinion of the President, that when such Constitution shall be submitted to the people of the Territory, they must be protected in the exercise of their right of voting for or against that instrument and the fair expression of the popular will must not be interfered with by fraud or violence. I repeat, then, as my clear conviction that unless the Convention submit the Constitution to the vote of all the actual resident settlers of Kansas, and the election be fairly and quietly conducted, the Constitution will be, and ought to be, rejected by Congress."

Relying on such solemn assurances as these, the people were lulled into a fatal security, under the belief that the frauds in the apportionment of delegates would be corrected and rendered harmless by the submission of the Constitution to a vote of the people. The October election having disappointed the last hopes of making Kansas a Slave State by a fair vote of the people, the Convention determined instead of conforming their action to the known wishes of the people of Kansas, to form a Slave State Constitution, and submit it to the people in such a form as to render it impossible for them to reject it.

The Lecomptonites were loyal to the territorial government, as long as they filled the offices and controlled its power; but the moment they were defeated, and the power passed into the hands of their opponents, they rebelled against it, defied its authority and devised schemes to destroy it. They proposed to abrogate and subvert the territorial government, by providing that the people should vote for their Constitution, but not against it. What is this but rebellion; open, marked, undisguised rebellion? Where is the difference between this and the Topeka movement, which the President denounces as a revolutionary government? The Lecompton, as well as the Topeka Constitution, was declared to take effect and be in force not only without the consent of Congress, but in defiance and contempt of the authority of the Territorial Legislature established by Congress. Upon what principle of fairness, then, can it be urged that we should admit Kansas into the Union under the Lecompton Constitution?

The speedy admission of Kansas is urged by the President as a question of mere expediency, to allay agitation. In order to reconcile the anti-Slavery feeling to the admission of Kansas under the Lecompton Constitution, the President presents the following propositions: 1st, That Slavery already exists in Kansas. 2d, That it can never be prohibited except by a Constitutional provision. 3d, That the people will then be sovereign, and can regulate their own affairs in their own way. 4th, That Congress may annul so much of the Lecompton Constitution as forbids any amendment before 1764, and requires two-thirds of each House of the Legislature to authorize the people to vote for a Convention and declaring the right of the Legislature already elected to call a Con-

vention, by a majority vote, in violation of the Constitution under which its members were elected, and which they were sworn to support.

The President can perceive no objection to this; but what right has Congress to intervene and annul, alter, or even construe the provisions of a State Constitution, and license the members of the Legislature to disregard their sworn obligations to support the Constitution, under which they hold their offices?

When a Constitution has once become the supreme law of a State, what lawful manner is there of changing it, except the one provided and permitted by the Constitution? I agree with the President that there are two ways of doing this; but one is lawful, and the other revolutionary. Suppose the line of policy indicated by the President is pursued, and Kansas admitted under the Lecompton Constitution, what relief will it be to the oppressed people, unless Mr. Calhoun should set aside the fraudulent returns from Delaware Crossing and Kickapoo, in order to insure a majority in both branches of the Legislature in favor of an immediate change? It is worse than mockery to talk about the right of the Legislature to make a change at its very first session. Mr. Calhoun's returns have not yet been declared, though more than a month has passed since the election. Any argument or proposition founded on the idea that the people of Kansas will have the opportunity of changing the Constitution by peaceful means through the instrumentalities of the Legislature, must prove delusive. Should the deed be consummated, their only alternative will be submission or revolution. Revolutions are sometimes peaceful, and sometimes bloody; do the history of the Lecompton Constitution, the character and purpose of the men engaged in the movement furnish an assurance that they will permit their power to be subverted? They will demand the protection of the Federal Army, or should it be made a judicial instead of a political question, would not that court be compelled to decide that the Constitution, having once become the fundamental law of the State, must be obeyed, as such until changed?

Should there be two State governments in Kansas, one organized under the Lecompton Constitution, and the other established by the people, which will the President recognize as valid, and which will be denounced as a revolutionary government, adhered to with such "reasonable pertinacity as to make it his duty, under the Constitution of the United States, to put down insurrection and crush out the rebellion with the Federal troops?" It is important that this question should be determined, in order that the people of Kansas may know how they are to exercise that great inalienable right which the President speaks when he says: "They can make and unmake Constitutions at pleasure."

Does he mean that inalienable right of revolution to which every people may resort, when their oppression is intolerable, and submission is a less evil than resistance? If so, I fear that the bright anticipations of the President would not be fully realized when he imagines that the speedy admission of Kansas into the Union under the Lecompton Constitution would restore peace and quiet to the whole country, and enable him to withdraw the troops of the United States from Kansas and employ them on branches of the service where they are much needed."

How the Major was Dusted. The Memphis Bulletin tells the following story, and a good one it is:--

Viola. Va. We have a friend--or, with the emphasis of the inimitable Tooles, we have a friend, who, for the nonce, we shall call "the Major," though his right to the prefix is somewhat questionable. Now the Major has had, though life, one besetting sin, and that is an unconquerable love of a certain game of cards known as *vint un*, which is the French for twenty-one. This well-known game, a fat wife and a large family are about the weaknesses that can be laid to the Major's charge. How often he has been married the record saith not, nor is it important. Suffice it that during over thirty odd years of the Major's wedded life, as his wealth increased his hairs became gray one after another in regular succession his board was honored with the presence of miniature editions of himself, until the number had reached twenty, when the Major concluded things had gone far enough and should be stopped. But they didn't, as the Major in due time found out, for he had calculated without consulting his wife, there were indications of another bond of union and well-spring of happiness. The Major became nervous for his nomenclature was exhausted. In his desperation, he finally declared that the coming heir to his name and fortunes, whether boy or girl, should be named *Vint Un*.

In vain the old woman remonstrated. The Major was inexorable. The newcomer, being the twenty-first, should have his way through life with that appropriate title. In an anti-room the Major awaited the announcement of the little stranger's sex. The nurse appeared, and to the Major's horror, whispered the terrible word:--

"Boys! Busted, by thunder," yelled the Major, "why didn't I stand on twenty!"

How to Make a Horse Draw. I once knew a man that bought a fine looking sorrel mare, that was as false as a bear as could be; but he finally cured her to perfection in the following manner:--

He geared her to the cart, and went to the corn-field to get a load of pumpkins. After he had got some ten or dozen on, she thought she had too much load, and refused to pull. He coaxed and petted her for some time, but all to no purpose; next he got a stick and thumped and thrashed with the same success, and then thought he would try another play. He got a wheelbarrow, and wheeled pumpkins enough to make a full load, and put them in the cart, when he took her by the head again, but it was no go. He then started to home, and concluded she might either pull the load of pumpkins or stand there till the day of judgement. But when the sun began to get low, she began to think about her supper, and started for home, passing skillfully through three sets of bars, and arrived at the barn in safety with her load. He put her in the stable and fed her as though nothing had happened. She refused to pull at two other times, but she received the same treatment each time, so she found it no use; for she had must to pull the load in the end. After that she became as good a beast to work as ever was hatched.

Vegetable Garden. In choosing a situation for the culture of vegetables, that which affords the most shelter should have a careful consideration. The best situation and aspect is one having a south-west slope, backed on the north and east points by a shelter of trees sufficiently distant to break the force of winds without interfering with the crops. This is, perhaps, of more importance than the natural adaptability of the soil. The operations of culture will constantly tend to alter and improve the soil. A free loam will be found most suitable, and, if resting on a somewhat clayey subsoil, it will produce heavier crops, and require less manure than where the subsoil is of a gravelly or sandy character. Draining will be indispensable as a permanent foundation for the gradual improvement and amelioration of such soils. A clayey soil also requires more manure in its cultivation, but this will be more than counterbalanced by its capacity of production. A clayey loam, well drained and sheltered, will be at least as good a soil on an exposure, and the great superiority of the former for general purposes is such as to render it the most desirable. A principal feature in the management of clayey soils is to turn them over roughly, exposing as much surface as possible to the action of frost. This has the effect of rendering clayey soils capable of being cropped as early as those where sand predominates.

A Curious Present.

A gentleman residing in Brooklyn, was a few mornings ago attracted to his front door by a violent ringing of the bell. Going to the door he found a large basket of mysterious aspect, containing a very snugly folded bundle. Carrying this into the breakfast room where his wife and children were just taking their seats at the table, he carefully unfolded the package. Imagine the astonishment of the paternal families on discovering that it contained a rosy, smiling infant of six months. Imagine the wrath of the wife, and the horror of the older children, when the following note, pinned to the cherub's dress, was read:--

February 14, 1858.
DEAR FRIEND:--On this day, consecrated to the worship of the tender passions, I send you a pledge of affection. You are the father of the dear child, and I hope you will rear it with a father's care. EMILY.

Pater Familias gets excited, strides madly up and down the room, awares by all the powers above and below, that he knows nothing about the babe, nor about Emily; that he is not the father of the infant, and will have nothing to do with it. His wife replies that he may relate that little anecdote to the marines, but that sailors will put the slightest confidence in any of his assertions, that he is a villain of the deepest dye. Pater Familias rushes madly from the house and calls a policeman. The policeman enters, and is ordered to take the child to the station house. He seizes the basket and is about to execute the command. Pater Familias interposes. She has no idea of having her baby carried to the almshouse. Pater Familias opens his eyes. The children set up a shout of laughter at their victimized father. He did not know his own baby, which his mischievous wife had sent outside the door in a basket. He had insisted that he was not the father of his own wife's baby. He had been sold at very low figure. Great explosion of mirth, during which the policeman retires. Pater Familias resolves to devote more time to his family, so that he may at least recognize the features of the youngest. Pater Familias promises not to do so again. Curtain falls slowly before a tableau of a happy family demolishing a sumptuous breakfast. --[X. K. Cor. of Boston Louis Republican.]

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Vegetable Garden. In choosing a situation for the culture of vegetables, that which affords the most shelter should have a careful consideration. The best situation and aspect is one having a south-west slope, backed on the north and east points by a shelter of trees sufficiently distant to break the force of winds without interfering with the crops. This is, perhaps, of more importance than the natural adaptability of the soil. The operations of culture will constantly tend to alter and improve the soil. A free loam will be found most suitable, and, if resting on a somewhat clayey subsoil, it will produce heavier crops, and require less manure than where the subsoil is of a gravelly or sandy character. Draining will be indispensable as a permanent foundation for the gradual improvement and amelioration of such soils. A clayey soil also requires more manure in its cultivation, but this will be more than counterbalanced by its capacity of production. A clayey loam, well drained and sheltered, will be at least as good a soil on an exposure, and the great superiority of the former for general purposes is such as to render it the most desirable. A principal feature in the management of clayey soils is to turn them over roughly, exposing as much surface as possible to the action of frost. This has the effect of rendering clayey soils capable of being cropped as early as those where sand predominates.

How the Major was Dusted. The Memphis Bulletin tells the following story, and a good one it is:--

Viola. Va. We have a friend--or, with the emphasis of the inimitable Tooles, we have a friend, who, for the nonce, we shall call "the Major," though his right to the prefix is somewhat questionable. Now the Major has had, though life, one besetting sin, and that is an unconquerable love of a certain game of cards known as *vint un*, which is the French for twenty-one. This well-known game, a fat wife and a large family are about the weaknesses that can be laid to the Major's charge. How often he has been married the record saith not, nor is it important. Suffice it that during over thirty odd years of the Major's wedded life, as his wealth increased his hairs became gray one after another in regular succession his board was honored with the presence of miniature editions of himself, until the number had reached twenty, when the Major concluded things had gone far enough and should be stopped. But they didn't, as the Major in due time found out, for he had calculated without consulting his wife, there were indications of another bond of union and well-spring of happiness. The Major became nervous for his nomenclature was exhausted. In his desperation, he finally declared that the coming heir to his name and fortunes, whether boy or girl, should be named *Vint Un*.

In vain the old woman remonstrated. The Major was inexorable. The newcomer, being the twenty-first, should have his way through life with that appropriate title. In an anti-room the Major awaited the announcement of the little stranger's sex. The nurse appeared, and to the Major's horror, whispered the terrible word:--

"Boys! Busted, by thunder," yelled the Major, "why didn't I stand on twenty!"

How to Make a Horse Draw. I once knew a man that bought a fine looking sorrel mare, that was as false as a bear as could be; but he finally cured her to perfection in the following manner:--